

An Act to Make Supplemental Highway Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2006 and June 30, 2007.

Emergency Preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the 90-day period may not terminate until after the beginning of the next fiscal year; and

Whereas, certain obligations and expenses incident to the operation of state departments and institutions will become due and payable immediately; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

PART A

Sec. A-1. Allocations. In order to provide for necessary expenditures of State Government and other purposes for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2006 and June 30, 2007, the following Highway Fund allocations as designated in the following tabulations are allocated. Other funds are presented for informational purposes only.

PART B

Sec. B-1. Supplemental allocations. There are allocated from the Highway Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 and June 30, 2007, to the departments listed, the following sums.

PART C

Sec. C-1. Eliminate program and transfer balance. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1585 or any other provision of law, at the close of fiscal year 2004-2005, the State Controller shall transfer all remaining Highway Fund balances in the Collector Road Program to the Highway and Bridge Improvement Program within the Department of Transportation.

Sec. C-2. Eliminate programs and transfer balances. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1585 or any other provision of law, at the close of fiscal year 2004-2005, the State Controller shall transfer all remaining Highway Fund balances in the Traffic Services Program and in the Bridge Maintenance program to the Highway Maintenance Program within the Department of Transportation.

Sec. C-3. Program name change. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Motor Transport Service program within the Department of Transportation is renamed Fleet Services.

Sec. C-4. Program name change. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Highway Maintenance program within the Department of Transportation is renamed Maintenance and Operations.

Sec. C-5. Program name change. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Administration & Planning program within the Department of Transportation is renamed Administration.

Sec. C-6. Program name change. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Transportation Services program within the Department of Transportation is renamed Public Transportation.

Sec. C-7. 23 MRSA § 1710 is repealed.

PART D

Sec. D-1. 29-A MRSA §456-C is enacted to read:

Maine National Guard registration plates

1. Maine National Guard plates. The Secretary of State, upon receiving an application and evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482, the annual motor vehicle registration fee required by section 501 and the contribution provided for in subsection 2, shall issue a registration certificate and a set of Maine National Guard special registration plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates. These plates must bear identification numbers and letters.

2. Contribution to Maine Military Family Relief Fund. In addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee prescribed by law for the particular class of vehicle registered, the initial contribution for Maine National Guard plates is \$20, which must be deposited with the Treasurer of State and credited as follows:

A. Ten dollars to the Maine Military Family Relief Fund established in Title 37B, section 158; and

B. Ten dollars to the Highway Fund for administrative and production costs.

3. Design. The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Adjutant General shall determine a design for the Maine National Guard special registration plates. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters shall review the final design prior to manufacture of the plates. The Secretary of State shall issue upon request Maine National Guard plates that are also vanity plates. Maine National Guard plates are issued in accordance with the provisions of this section and section 453.

4. Renewal fee. In addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee prescribed by law, the annual renewal contribution for Maine National Guard special registration plates is \$15, which must be deposited with the Treasurer of State and credited as follows:

A. Ten dollars to the Maine Military Family Relief Fund established in Title 37-B, section 158; and

B. Five dollars to the Highway Fund for administrative and production costs.

5. Reimbursement for production and issuance costs for plates produced after first 2,000 plates. The Secretary of State shall deposit to the Maine Military Family Relief Fund established in Title 37B, section 158 \$20 for each initial set of Maine National Guard registration plates and \$15 for each renewal of Maine National Guard registration plates. The Treasurer of State shall transfer annually from the Maine Military Family

Relief Fund to the Highway Fund \$10 for each initial set of Maine National Guard registration plates issued and \$5 for each renewal of Maine National Guard registration plates. This transfer is to reimburse the Secretary of State for costs associated with production and issuance of plates.

6. Duplicate plates. The Secretary of State shall issue a Maine National Guard plate in a 3-number and 3-letter combination sequence. Vanity plates may not duplicate vanity plates issued in another class of plate.

7. Weight limit. A Maine National Guard plate may be issued for a motor vehicle that does not exceed 9,000 pounds. A motor vehicle that exceeds 6,000 pounds is subject to the fees in section 504.

8. Date of first issue. The Secretary of State shall issue the first Maine National Guard plate on or after November 1, 2005.

Sec. D-2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Maine National Guard registration plates are not subject to the requirements of 29-A MRSA §468, sub §2.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect July 1, 2005.

SUMMARY

This bill does the following.

PART A

Part A makes supplemental allocations for fiscal years 2005-06 and 2006-07.

PART B

Part B makes allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.

PART C

Part C does the following.

1. Authorizes the transfer of any remaining Highway Fund balances in the Collector Road Program at the end of fiscal year 2004-05 to the Highway and Bridge Improvement Program as a result of merging the Collector Road Program into the Highway and Bridge Improvement Program.
2. Authorizes the transfer of any remaining Highway Fund balances in the Traffic Services Program and the Bridge Maintenance program at the end of fiscal year 2004-05 to the Highway Maintenance program as a result of merging the Traffic Services Program and Bridge Maintenance programs into the Highway Maintenance Program.
3. Changes the name of the Motor Transport Service program to Fleet Services.
4. Changes the name of the Highway Maintenance program to Maintenance and Operations.
5. Changes the name of the Administration and Planning program to Administration.
6. Changes the name of the Transportation Services program to Public Transportation.
7. Repeals the Collector Road Improvement Fund.

PART D

Part D provides for a Maine National Guard specialty license plate.